January 2019 news bulletin

Happy New Year and welcome to the first monthly information bulletin of 2019. This year will see a step up in the project as we move forward with bridges and structures work and prepare for the start of phase 2 of construction between Junctions 8/9 at Maidenhead and Junction 3 at Hayes.

Our public engagement for this year is currently being organised. In March and April 2019 we will be holding the next set of Public Information Events for areas between junctions 8/9 to 3. Watch this space for information about these in the next bulletin.

We are now moving into the new office and compound near Junction 10 which recently finished construction. The new compound will allow us to store the vast majority of our equipment and materials and reduce the need for large local compounds. It will also provide space for vehicle rescue and recovery facilities for users of the M4.

What’s happening on the M4 project during January?

**Phase two of construction starts in 2019**

Phase one of the project started in July 2018 and comprises the area west from Junctions 8/9 leading to Junction 12. While this is a significant piece of work in itself, phase two covering Junctions 8/9 eastwards into London and Junction 3 is a much more complex endeavour. We are now preparing for kick off in May.

Much of the M4 was originally built as a two-lane dual carriageway, and has been upgraded over the years. Eleven bridges over the motorway need to be replaced to make room for a new lane where there is no existing hard shoulder.

Where the motorway passes over, for example, the River Thames at Bray and the railway line to Windsor, we will need to widen bridges to support the new smart motorway. Two subways, including at Sipson, and several culverts that run under the motorway will also need work in order to accommodate the upgrade.

Some weekend closures will be required for bridge works. Road diversions for any of these works have been agreed with the local and statutory authorities. Full details will be communicated and posted on our project webpages well in advance.

**M4 overnight closures during January**

There are several overnight full closures (usually 22:00 to 05:00) currently planned in January. The best way to keep up to date with the various closures, including slip road closures, is the Traffic England website at: www.trafficengland.com.

Please check your car and your route before you travel.

NB: In the event of poor weather conditions or other issues out of our control, planned works may be postponed at short notice. If works complete ahead of schedule the motorway may reopen early. Signage will be in place to update road users of changes.
The Considerate Constructors Scheme is a non-profit-making, independent organisation founded in 1997 by the construction industry to improve its image. Construction sites, companies and suppliers voluntarily register with the Scheme and agree to abide by the Code of Considerate Practice, designed to encourage best practice beyond statutory requirements. The M4 Junctions 3 to 12 project is registered with the Scheme and it underpins our approach to the works.

The Scheme is concerned about any area of construction activity that may have a direct or indirect impact on the image of the industry as a whole. The main areas of concern fall into three categories: the general public, the workforce and the environment. Over 90,000 sites and more than 1000 companies have already registered with the Scheme, recognising the many advantages that come with being part of an organisation actively helping to improve the image of the construction industry.

The construction industry has a huge impact on all our lives, with most construction work taking place in sensitive locations.

The Code of Considerate Practice commits sites, companies and suppliers registered with the Scheme to care about appearance, respect the community, protect the environment, secure everyone’s safety and value their workforce.

Through the monitoring of registered sites, companies and suppliers, and the displaying of posters around the construction site, promoting registration with the Scheme.

If passers-by wish to comment, the name and telephone number of the site manager or company contact is clearly displayed, alongside the freephone telephone number of the Scheme’s administration office.

Registered companies and suppliers also display a vehicle sticker or magnet, showing their unique registration number, on every vehicle used on the public highway.

For more information on the Scheme visit: https://www.ccscheme.org.uk/

How are we doing?

The CCS Code outlines the expectations for employers and sites, which should:
- Care about Appearance
- Respect the Community
- Protect the Environment
- Secure everyone’s Safety
- Value their Workforce

If you have any concerns about our worksites on the M4 project please get in touch with our site representative from the Balfour Beatty VINCI JV on 07547 949510.

Find out more

You can find out more about the plans by visiting our website at: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m4j3to12 or following the South East regional twitter feed @highwaysSEAST.

You can also email us at: M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk, call on 0300 123 5000 or write to: M4 J3-12 Smart Motorway, Highways England, 2 Colmore Square, Birmingham B4 6BN.